

5

are at least partially flexible or resilient. In an example embodiment the housing parts 160 can be made of plastic, Of metal, composites or combinations thereof. In an embodiment the housing parts 160 comprise a mechanical structure allowing at least partial flexibility of the housing parts or the housing parts 160 comprise flexible or resilient material.

FIG. 2 shows a schematic view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in an open configuration. The housing parts 160 are folded fully open and the display part 110 is unbent and fully exposed. As it can be seen in FIG. 2, the display part 110 extends over inner surfaces of both housing parts 160.

FIG. 3a shows a cross-sectional side view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in an open configuration. The hinge 190 is fully folded and the spring 120 (and the display part 110 on top of the spring 120) rests on the hinge 190. The locking mechanism 170, 180 locks the display assembly to an open position and stops the frame part 130 from moving too far out from the housing part 160. In an example embodiment, the flexi 150 is attached to a PWB on the frame part 130 with an AFC bonding or connector.

FIG. 3b shows a cross-sectional side view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in an open configuration. The display part 110 and the spring 120 are fully open. The frame 130 doubles up as a support for the display part. The pivot 140, 161 provides tension for the display part keeping it straight.

FIG. 4 shows a schematic view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in a half-open configuration. The display part 110 and the spring underneath are bending together as the housing parts 160 are folded from an open configuration towards a closed configuration. Energy is being loaded on the spring as it is being bent. This energy will be used to open up the apparatus when the housing parts 160 are unfolded into an open configuration in some later phase.

FIG. 5 shows a cross-sectional side view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in a half-open configuration. As the housing parts 160 are folded towards the closed configuration, a force illustrated with arrows 510, 511 is applied to the apparatus 100 and this folding force 510, 511 causes that the frame parts 130 are retracted inside the housing parts 160. The pivoting connections 140, 161 keep one end 131 of the frame parts 130 connected to the housing parts 160, but the other end 132 of the frame parts 130 is free to move within the housing parts 160. The arrows 520, 521 illustrate the movement of the frame parts 130.

In an example embodiment the frame parts 130 are retracted towards an intermediate locking position in the locking mechanism 170, 180. In an example embodiment, the locking mechanism 170, 180 is such that it provides friction but does not completely prevent movement of the frame part 130. Thereby, as the force 510, 511 is applied the frame parts 130 are allowed to move along the locking mechanism 170, 180. The display part 110 is assembled on the frame part (with the spring 120 between them) and thereby also the display part 110 is retracted inside the housing part 160 into a space defined by the housing part 160.

FIG. 6 shows a schematic view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in a half-closed configuration. The display assembly (comprising the display part 110, the spring and the frame parts) is retracted further inside the housing parts 160 as the housing

6

parts 160 are further folded. The arrows in FIG. 6 illustrate the movement of the display assembly.

FIG. 7 shows a cross-sectional side view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in a half-closed configuration. The frame part 130 and the display part 110 are shown half way inside the housing part 160.

FIGS. 8a and 8b shows a schematic view of an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention in a closed configuration. The housing parts 160 are fully folded against each other and a closed space is defined inside the housing parts.

FIG. 9 shows a cross-sectional side view of an apparatus according to an example embodiment of the invention in a closed configuration. The display part 110 and the spring 120 are fully bent and the frame 130 meets the housing 160. In an example embodiment, the form of the inner wall of the housing part 160 and the form of the frame part 130 are configured to fit to each other so that the housing part 160 smoothly receives the frame part 130. The space 910 formed inside the housing parts 160 is configured to accommodate the bending radius of the display part 110.

FIG. 10 shows a cross-sectional side view of an apparatus according to an example embodiment of the invention in a closed configuration. The Figure illustrates an example apparatus wherein a display bending radius 1010 is 4.1 mm and thickness 1020 of the apparatus 100 is 14.2 mm. However this is just one example and the mechanisms disclosed herein are scalable to different device thicknesses and display bending radiuses. For comparison it is mentioned that a similar display bending radius of 4.1 mm translates into a device thickness of 20 mm in a mesh hinge concept.

FIGS. 11a and 11b show a schematic view of a locking mechanism in an apparatus 100 according to an example embodiment of the invention. In the closed configuration the housing parts 160 are locked to each other with a locking mechanism 116, 117. The example locking mechanism that is shown is a magnetic latch. There is a moving magnet 116 on one of the housing parts 160 and a piece of steel 117 mounted on the other housing part 160. The housing parts 160 are released open by moving the magnet 116.

FIG. 12 shows a schematic a block diagram of an apparatus 100 of an example embodiment. The apparatus 100 comprises a communication interface module 250, a processor 240 coupled to the communication interface module 250, and a memory 260 coupled to the processor 240. The apparatus further comprises and input/output (I/O) unit 230 and the user interface (U/I) unit 110, such as a flexible display, which are coupled to the processor 240.

The memory 260 comprises a work memory and a non-volatile memory such as a read-only memory, flash memory, optical or magnetic memory. In the memory 260, typically at least initially in the non-volatile memory, there is stored software 270 operable to be loaded into and executed by the processor 240. The software 270 may comprise one or more software modules and can be in the form of a computer program product that is software stored in a memory medium. In the context of this document, a "memory medium" may be any non-transitory media or means that can contain, store, communicate, propagate or transport the instructions for use by or in connection with an instruction execution system, apparatus, or device, such as a computer.

It shall be understood that any coupling in this document refers to functional or operational coupling; there may be intervening components or circuitries in between coupled elements unless expressly otherwise described.